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The Cerebral Cortex and its Work. HENRY MAUDSLEY. Mind. No. 58, April, 1890.

Those who may be interested in this line of thought will find a suggestive discussion in the above-mentioned paper, wherein the entire central nervous system is considered as an elaborate reflex apparatus. Sensory nerves are adapted for special stimuli, fit motor adjustment in response "is the fundamental quality of a perfect reflex action." Complexity of reaction is the criterion of a highly developed nervous system. The highest nerve centres are the store-houses of "adjustments and fit acts." Coming to the question of the motor centres of the cortex Maudsley asks "what actual relation of function the definite motor areas of the cortex have to the classes of movements which take place in consequence of their stimulation." He concludes, that it may be that no part of the so-called motor-region is really directly motor, but that it represents specialized movements, "abstracts of movement or motor abstracts, which are the efferent aspects of the cortical reflexes called thoughts." One corallary from this would be, no thought without movement.

Proceedings of the Physiological Society, 1890, No. IV, Journ. of Physiology, Vol. IX, No. 6.

Dr. Beevor gave a demonstration of the cingulum,—the longitudinal fibres of the gyrus fornicatus, and gyrus hippocampi—in the marmoset monkey. The most important general result was that the fibres forming the cingulum are not continuous from one end to the other, but are internuncial, running a short course in the cingulum and then turning out into the neighboring white matter. In that portion of the cingulum which lies dorsad of the callosum they thus appear to put the gyrus fornicatus in connection with the centrum ovale—an anatomical relation which is interesting in view of the observations of Schäfer and Horsley that removal of the gyrus fornicatus produces in monkeys tactile anæsthesia on the opposite side of the body.

Complete Sciences of Goll's Columns and Chronic Spinal Leptomeningitis with Degenerative Changes in the Fibres of the Anterior and Posterior Roots. F. W. MOTT, M. D. 'The Am. Journ. of the Medical Sciences. Vol. CI., No. I, Jan., 1891.

The case which the author describes was a male 46 years of age. His occupation exposed him to all weathers, and he drank rather heavily. History negative. He was admitted to Charing Cross Hospital on account of illness which had commenced some two years previously. He died, about twenty days after admission, of general tuberculosis of the lungs. The symptoms which are of interest in this connection were sudden failure of power in the legs, which increased until he lost completely the use of them, accompanied by pain, the legs becoming flexed and rigid. Weakness and wasting of the upper limbs developed later, but he did not completely lose the use of them. The reflexes were generally absent though a very faint knee-jerk was obtained on the right side. Sexual power was lost at the outset of the disease, but there was no difficulty in micturition or defecation. For the upper extremities the dermal sensations were normal. The only note on these sensations for the lower extremities is that tickling the soles of the feet was The special senses and the movements of the muscles of the head and face were normal.

No note was made of the macroscopic appearance of the fresh cord. On sectioning the hardened cord the lumbar region was found free from degeneration up to the level of the first lumbar segment, but from this point to the cephalic portions of the cervical region the dorso-median columns were degenerated. The dura appeared normal but the pia was